Idle Jute Mills in the Country

3975. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Jute Mills in the organised sector in the country lying idle at present;

(b) the number of jute mills permitted during the last three years to retrench their workers ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to rehabilitate the workers ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected.

Commission on Bonded Labour

3976. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a final decision on setting up of a commission on Bonded labour has been taken; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR) : (a) and (b) The proposal to constitute a National Commission Bonded Labour has been under examination. The Government now consider that setting up of the above Commission is not necessary at this stage and what is required is better implementation of the provisions of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. To ensure better implementation of the provisions of the Act, more effecive monitoring of progress has been envisaged and State Governments have been requested to effectively implemant the Act and furnish monthly reports to the Central Government regarding the progress made.

Fraud in Regional Provident Fund Commissioner's Office

3977. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whtether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitems published Kananda Daily in Bangalore on 26th January, 1992 regarding f aud in Regional Provident Fund Commissioner's Office pertaining to Provident Fund accounts of N.G.E.F., employees;

(b) whether Government have received any complaint in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Employees Provident Fund authorities have identified a few cases of fraud involving an amount of Rs. 87,400/- (Rupees Eighty Seven thousand and four hundred). The matter is under investigation.

Corruption charges against protector of Emigrants

3978. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that CBI has found a protector of Emigrants in his Ministry guilty of corruption; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken against the guilty ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) Cases of alleged acceptance illegal gratification against four official of the office of the Protector of Emigrants Bombay, have been registered by the CBI Bombay. The matter is being investigated by the CBI. Appropriate action will be taken against the concerned person(s) on receipt of the report from the CBI.

Central Legislation for construction workers

3979. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2237 given in the Rajya Sabha on 12th December, 1991 and state by when Government propose to bring forward a Central Legislation providing safety provisions for workers engaged in building and construction workers ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : Proposal for enactment of a Central Legislation for Building and Construction Workers is at an advanced stage of consideration of Government.

Bonded Labour in the Country

3980. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bonded labourers identified and freed so far, State-wise ?